

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 1 through 8 and 18 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein. Please amend Claims 9 through 12, 15 through 17, and 19 and add Claims 20 through 24 as follows:

1 - 8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) An image processing apparatus which comprises:
detecting means for detecting a digital watermark information contained in image data;
obtaining means for obtaining an address of a device which holds a data list relating to
said image data from said detected digital watermark information;
data list receiving means for receiving the said data list from the device according to said
address obtained by said obtaining means;
data receiving means for receiving data selected by a user from said image data list; and
inquiring means for inquiring, prior to the receiving of said data list by said data list
receiving means, whether to perform the receiving of said data list by said data list receiving
means by using in accordance with said detected digital watermark information.

10. (Currently Amended) The image processing apparatus according to claim 9, wherein
said data is an image, a speech, or a movie.

11. (Currently Amended) The image processing apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said data list ~~writes~~ has written therein a plurality of data pieces and charge information for said plurality of data pieces.

12. (Currently Amended) The image processing apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said data reception is performed by selecting said user's desired data from said data list and inputting the number of a cash card of said user.

13. (Original) The image processing apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said data is data of another produce of a painter who has written said image data.
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14. (Original) The image producing apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said data is data of another produce of a composer who has written a musical note corresponding to said image data.

15. (Currently Amended) The image processing apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said data is data of another produce of an author who has written a book according corresponding to said image data.

16. (Currently Amended) The image processing apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said data ~~is~~ is data of another produce of an photographer who has taken a photograph corresponding to said image data.

17. (Currently Amended) The image processing apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said address comprises a plurality of addresses, and said data receiving means receives a data list from a plurality of devices.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended) An image processing method which comprises comprising:
a step of detecting a digital watermark information contained in image data by detecting means;

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a step of obtaining an address of a device which holds a data list relating to said image data from said detected digital watermark information by obtaining means;

a step of receiving a data list from the device by receiving means according to said address obtained in said obtaining step;

a step of receiving data selected by a user from said image data list by data receiving means; and

a step of inquiring, prior to the receiving in said data list receiving step, whether to perform the receiving of said data list in said data list receiving step by using in accordance with said detected digital watermark information.

20. (New) A storage medium for computer-readably storing a program to achieve an image processing method which method comprises:

a step of detecting digital watermark information contained in image data by detecting means;

a step of obtaining an address of a device which holds a data list relating to said image data from said detected digital watermark information by obtaining means;

a step of receiving a data list from the device by receiving means according to said address obtained in said obtaining step;

a step of receiving data selected by a user from said data list by data receiving means; and

a step of inquiring, prior to the receiving in said data list receiving step, whether to perform the receiving of said data list in said data list receiving step in accordance with said detected digital watermark information.

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21. (New) The image processing apparatus according to Claim 9, wherein said data is data that has been produced by the same person who created content corresponding to said image data.

22. (New) The image processing apparatus according to Claim 21, wherein the content is selected from the group consisting of an image, a painting, music, a book, and a photograph.

23. (New) The image processing apparatus according to Claim 9, wherein said data list is an index listing a plurality of items of data, each item of data corresponding to an image, a movie, or sound.

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24. (New) The image processing apparatus according to Claim 23, wherein said index further lists, for each of the plurality of items of data, a corresponding fee.